(c) what action Government have taken to improve the quantity of oil production per employee to reach the international standard and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The cost of production of crude oil varies from field to field and country to country based on different characteristics of the reservoir and its location.

The average cost of production of crude oil by ONGC during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was Rs. 2066, Rs. 2301 ad Rs. 2566 per metric tonne, respectively.

For ONGC, the average rate of production per employee was 1.40 tonnes per day in the year 1992-93.

Data regarding cost of crude oil production and production per employee internationally is not maintained.

(c) Steps taken to reduce cost of production of oil and gas, including cost of manpower, are continuous and close monitoring of expenditure, use of latest technology, introduction of improved managerial techniques etc.

Restriction on Entry of Public Sector Oil Companies

1182. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have restricted Public Sector Oil Companies from entering the parallel marketing of petroleum products at market related prices; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Public Sector Oil Companies had requested for an explicit permission from Government for importing kerosene and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and selling them at market prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) The parallel marketing system is aimed at involving private sector investment to supplement the resources of the public sector in distribution and marketing of kerosene and LPG.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Private Sector in Import and Distribution of LPG

1183. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow private sector to enter the import and distribution of liquified petroleum gas;

(b) what are the guidelines prescribed for this;

(c) how many parties have come forward to import LPG; and

(d) what mechanism has been evolved to regulate the price of the imported products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using/setting up their own facilities, LPG bottling plants and marketing outlets for sale of such